

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A wedding ceremony information distribution system for editing and processing image data taken at a wedding hall within a prescribed time at a center connected to a communication network and for transmitting the processed data in real-time to prescribed distribution destinations, the wedding ceremony information distribution system comprising:

one or a plurality of cameras disposed in a wedding hall for imaging a wedding ceremony and/or reception;

a video projector and a computer terminal disposed in the wedding hall; and

an editing/distribution center connected to the computer terminal via a communication network for editing, processing, and distributing image data taken at the wedding hall and transmitted by the computer terminal;

the computer terminal comprising:

image data transmission means for transferring image data from the cameras into the computer terminal and transmitting the image data to the editing/distribution center;

video data reception means for receiving video data edited and processed at the editing/distribution center based on the image data taken at the wedding hall; and

video data writing means for writing video data received from the editing/distribution center onto a recording medium in order to play back the video data with the video projector;

the editing/distribution center comprising:

image data reception means for receiving image data taken at the wedding hall and transferred to the computer terminal from the computer terminal;

video data editing means for editing and processing the received image data by adding the names of people attending the reception, animation, and other prepared data for producing video data to be projected with the video projector; and

video data transmission means for transmitting the edited and processed video data to the computer terminal.

2. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 1, wherein the image data transmission means of the computer terminal transmits image data taken by the one or plurality of cameras disposed in the wedding hall to the editing/distribution center via the communication network as digital video data;

the video data editing means at the editing/distribution center edits the digital video data transmitted from the computer terminal, including such images as the wedding ceremony performed at a church, shrine, or the like, the reception, speeches, and wedding accessories, and converts the data to streaming data; and

the video data transmission means distributes the streaming data via the communication network to prescribed distribution destinations pre-registered in a database.

3. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 1, wherein the editing/distribution center further comprises a server system comprising:

a mail server for collectively transmitting by e-mail a wedding announcement with an attached message and wedding photographs to a plurality of notification destinations within a prescribed time after completion of the wedding ceremony;

a Web server for registering and editing e-mail addresses serving as distribution destinations in a Web browser of the computer terminal;

an FTP server for managing file transfers with the computer terminal when transferring wedding-related data to be edited; and

a database server for managing various data associated with the editing and distribution; and,

functioning in conjunction with the server system,

mail distribution list creation means for receiving a wedding plan for the wedding

couple, a list of parties to be notified of a wedding announcement, an original e-mail to be distributed, and the like inputted into the computer terminal, for accepting reservations to receive the distributed e-mail and for creating a distribution list comprising a list of e-mail addresses for relatives, friends, and acquaintances to which the wedding announcement is to be distributed simultaneously on the day of the wedding;

mail photographic data creation means for creating photographic data to be attached to an e-mail message by processing image data received from the computer terminal by the image data reception means;

mail generation means for generating e-mail based on the mail photographic data and a registered e-mail original to be distributed in bulk to the addresses in the distribution list; and

mail distribution means for distributing the e-mail generated by the mail generation means in bulk to the addresses in the distribution list so that the distribution is completed within a prescribed time following completion of the wedding ceremony.

4. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 3, wherein the editing/distribution center further comprises:

message reception means for receiving messages addressed to the wedding couple by e-mail or via a Web page from a plurality of user terminals having made reservations to be on the mail distribution list and for saving the messages in a database; and

Web page generation means for establishing a homepage for each member of the wedding couple, acquiring at least image data of the couple taken at the wedding hall with the cameras and various data included in messages from the plurality of user terminals from the database, and for generating Web pages and publishing these Web pages on a communication network.

5. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 4, wherein the computer terminal further comprises message card creation means for sharing

various data with the editing/distribution center via a communication network, for generating a unique access code for each user on the e-mail distribution list, and for creating a message card for each user on the distribution list including the access code and an e-mail address and/or a Web page URL for recording a message for the wedding couple.

6. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 3, wherein the editing/distribution center further comprises:

member registration means for promoting member registration in a mail magazine distribution service as part of a wedding service by offering membership to users registered in the mail distribution list;

mail magazine distribution/registration means for transmitting a Web page with information on subscribing to the mail magazine when the recipient of the e-mail accesses a Web page to solicit enrollment, and for receiving a reply e-mail with the user's e-mail address and registering membership information for the user in a database; and

mail magazine distribution means for periodically distributing a mail magazine and coupons to the e-mail addresses registered in the database via the communication network.

7. A wedding ceremony information distribution system according to Claim 6, wherein the editing/distribution center further comprises mobile distribution content service means for providing services to members registered by the member registration means via a cellular telephone, including various wallpaper image services for cellular telephones; on-demand application services providing a scheduler/calendar, an original clock, and the like; a ringtone service for providing various ringtones; fortune-telling services providing astrological predictions, compatibility readings, and the like; a Web camera service periodically distributing still images of an event from a live camera provided at the venue; and a cellular game service for games for portable devices.